

them now? They come from the parties.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Yes, that's correct. The electors are elected by the political parties at their state conventions.

SENATOR CROSBY: That's right, at the state convention, so it has come down to the point probably, and I think probably everybody would agree on this that it's kind of an honorary thing from the parties that the parties give to people who have been active and feel that they deserve this honor to be on the electoral college and to cast their vote. So as a whole I think the electoral college is out of date, shall we say, obsolete or whatever, but there is something about this bill that it doesn't seem to me that we have any problems so I'm probably going to vote against it but it's a friendly red. Thank you.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Crosby. Now we'll go to Senator Withem.

SENATOR WITHEM: Yes, Mr. Speaker, members of the body, Senator Crosby, I'm sure a hostile green would be much more appreciated by Senator Schimek than a friendly red on this measure. I'm supportive of the bill for one reason, and I apologize, Senator Schimek. I walked in halfway through your presentation. I don't know if you covered this, let me ask you a question. Did you mention the fact that you are in statute for the first time mandating that these delegates actually cast their vote for whom the people voted for in Nebraska?

SENATOR SCHIMEK: No, I did not.

SENATOR WITHEM: I think that's a real key point. Senator Crosby said the bill doesn't accomplish much. I think that is one thing to accomplish, accomplished by this bill, and I share your concern, Senator Crosby, about the electoral college and if I could wave a magic wand I would do away with it and go to a simple popular vote. One of the little time bombs ticking away in the electoral college is the fact that once these electors are chosen and they're chosen by the parties, as Senator Schimek has indicated, and they become elected when their party carries the presidential election in a state, they are not bound to vote for anybody. They could vote for whoever they wanted to and there are, I think, every now and then there is an elector who, for one reason or another, decides they don't like the nominee of their party any longer and they cast a vote for somebody